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12/10 #619

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United States Department of State

Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20520-6258

2001 DEC 10 P 8:09

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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
B/ES for 12/19.

CONFIDENTIAL
DECL: 12/09/11

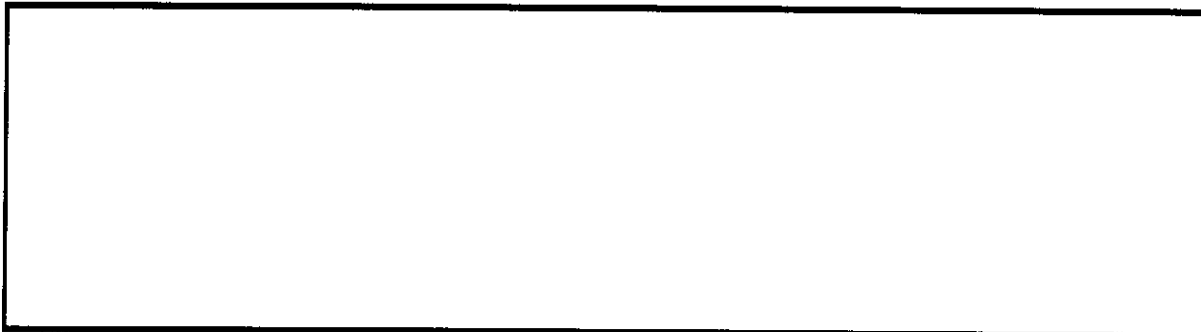
RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(D)

TO: The Secretary

FROM: WHA - Lino Gutiérrez LG

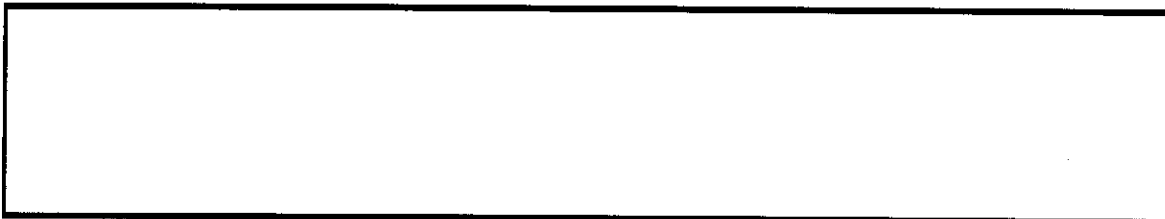
SUBJECT: Venezuelan General Strike Shuts Down Venezuela

The December 10 general strike in Venezuela -- called by that country's major employer organization and supported by the trade union movement -- shut down the national economy for a day. The Venezuelan Federation of Chambers of Commerce (FEDECAMARAS) claimed that 90 percent of businesses were closed.



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Protests throughout the day were peaceful. The one exception followed a speech by Chávez when pro-Chávez demonstrators burned a press van. A demonstration at the Embassy -- where additional Venezuelan National Guard were on hand -- never materialized. All Embassy personnel are safe.



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Classified by WHA AA/S Lino Gutiérrez
Reason: E.O. 12958 1.5 (b)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 18 APR 2006 200304421

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Attachments:

Tab 1 - CARACAS 3618 "Media Coverage and Spins on National
Work Stoppage"



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